

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

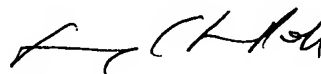
Claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 9-18 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 3, the specification, and the drawings have been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been introduced.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

RL:rl

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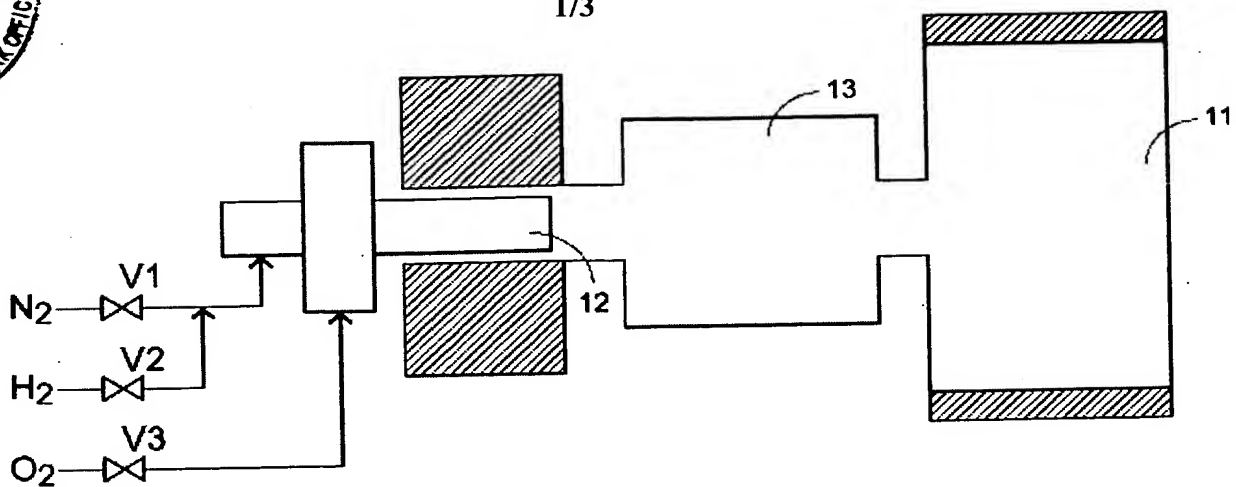


Fig.1  
PRIOR ART

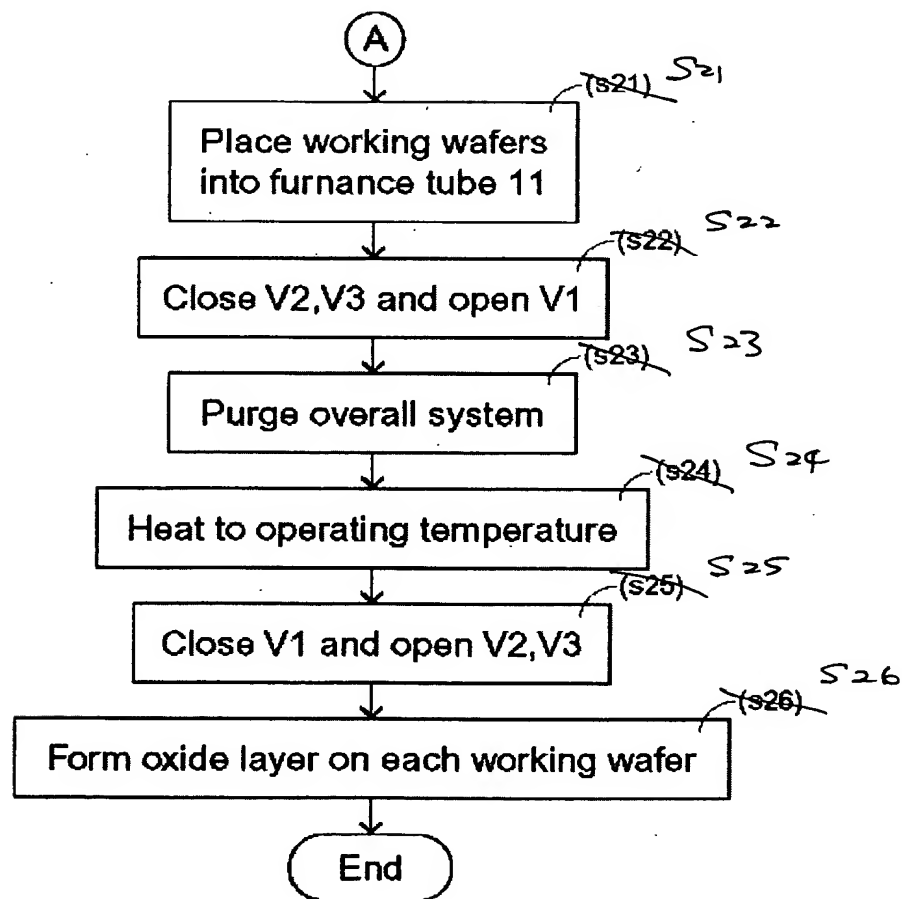


Fig.2B  
PRIOR ART

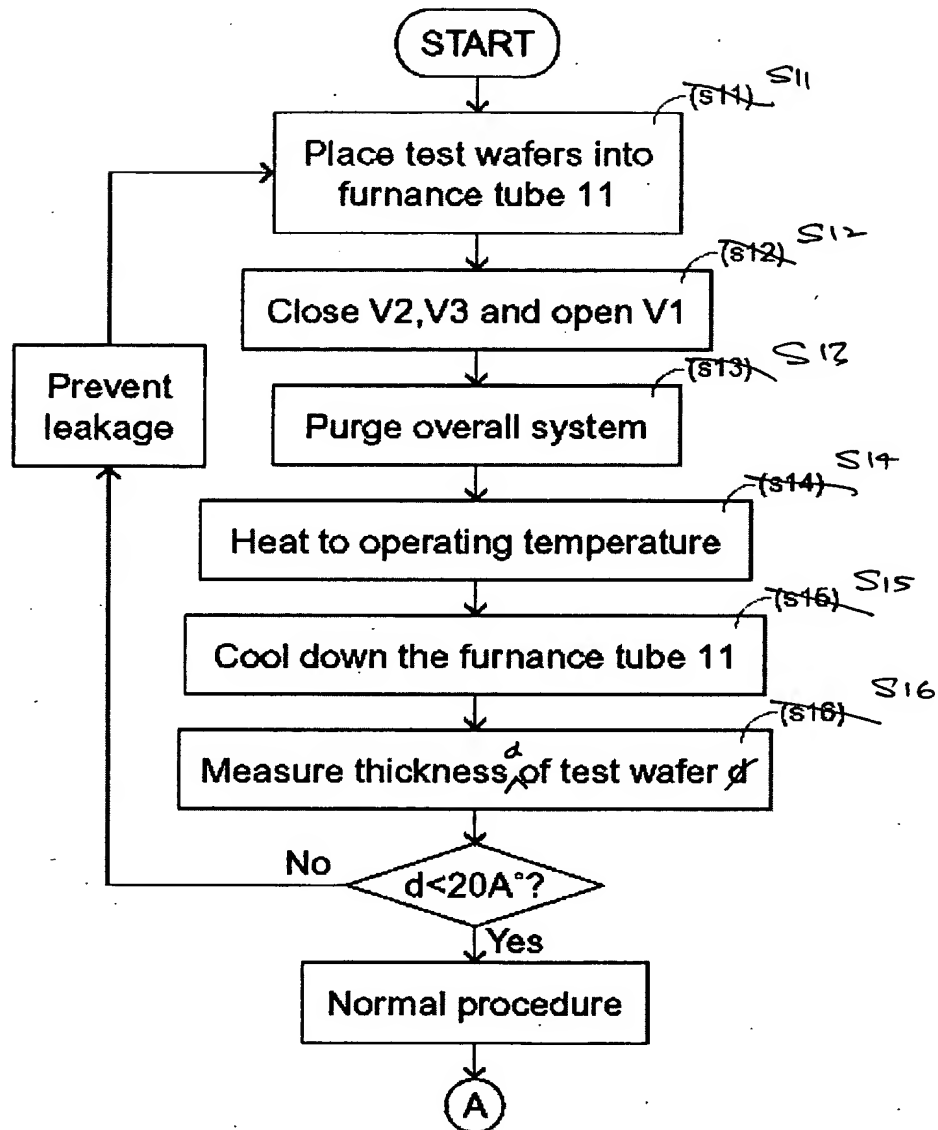


Fig.2A  
PRIOR ART

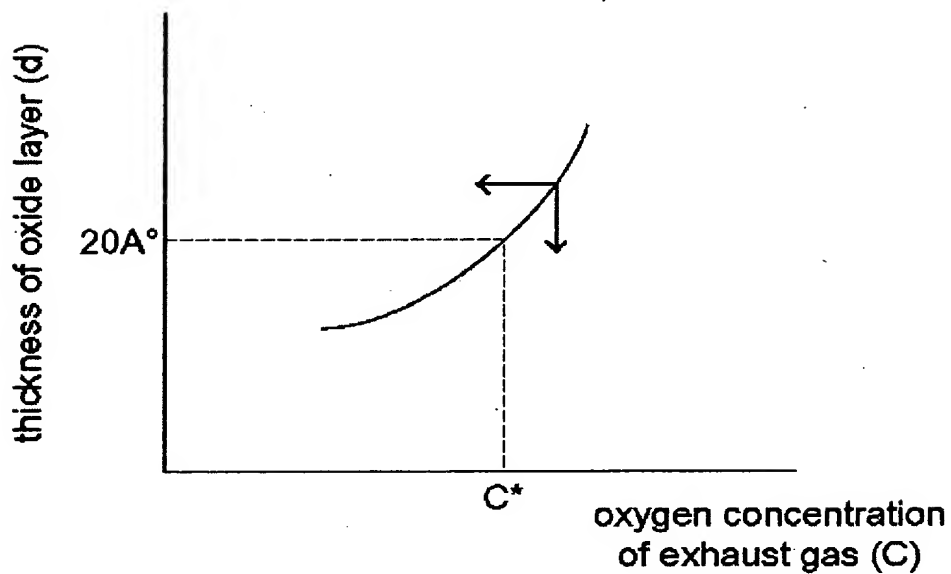


Fig.4

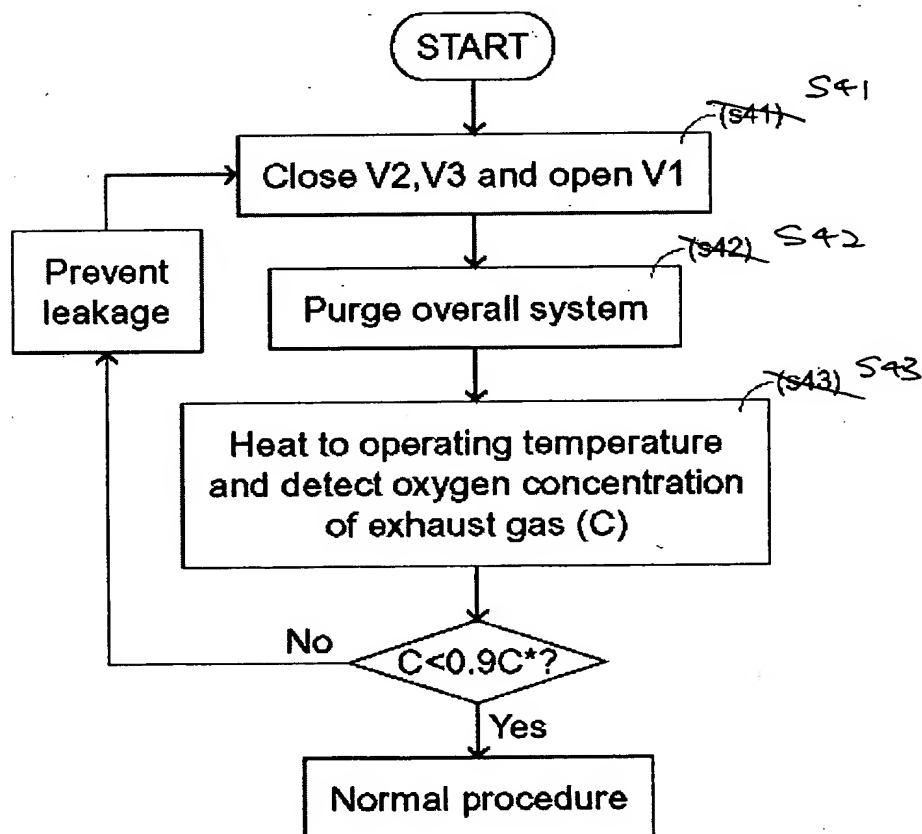


Fig.5